



## City of Lansing Sues Some Big Name Pharmacies

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The City of Lansing is taking on big name pharmacies like CVS, Wal-greens, and Rite Aid. The city is suing them for over charging Lansing city workers for generic drugs. The two sides were in a Grand Rapids court Tuesday.

There's a little known consumer protection law that only exists in three states. Michigan is one of them. That law puts a limit on how much pharmacies can profit from generic drugs. According to Lansing City Attorney Brig Smith, pharmacies are going over that limit. That's why he's suing.

The pharmacies asked for the case to be thrown out Tuesday, but the judge didn't do that. Instead he said he take a few days, look at the case and then make a decision.

Smith said, "We're fighting like the dickens to keep the case in court. We want to be able to survive this motion so we can get into discovery and see how much money we're actually talking about."

If the case gets past this first step, it could mean hundreds of thousands of dollars have to be returned to the City of Lansing.

"Thousands of scripts over multiple years means you're talking about a potentially large sum of money. Obviously we're in tight budget times, I'm not saying that's why we're doing it, but we think we're right," Smith said.

Evenutally, Smith hopes to bring other cities on board because he thinks there are others impacted by this.

"We'd say look your honor, the City of Lansing isn't alone and the city would like to represent other cities in a class action lawsuit against the big pharmacies," he said.

The attorneys representing the pharmacies did not get back to 6news in time for this story.

When we get a response 6news will be sure to bring that to you.



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